

3 August 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Comments on Proposed Statement by the Honorable
Carol E. Dinkins Before the House Government
Operations Committee on 9 August 1984

1. Having reviewed the attached proposed testimony I informed [] of OLL that OIS has two areas of concern with Ms. Dinkin's testimony. One area of concern is cited at the bottom of page 17 concerning the "crowding-out" and the proposal to give accelerated consideration to FOIA requests made by the news media and others who demonstrate a need for expedited access to government records. This appears to be a bad provision of S.774 and would tend to give groups of requesters, i.e. the media, preferential treatment over others and make for an impossible queuing situation for the Agency. A better concept would be to expedite cases only in cases involving health, safety and to insure the due process of law. [] indicated this was probably the wrong time to raise that point, but nevertheless she would forward our concerns to those people in Justice concerned with S.774.

2. The top half of page 19 discusses the issue of not allowing foreign nationals access to government records via FOIA. This discussion is not clear and well-understood, and we suggest that Justice take another look at this portion in order to add to the clarity in debating that portion of S.774.

3. All other provisions of the statement proposed by Ms. Dinkins appear on target in supporting S.774.

[]
Information and Privacy Coordinator

Attachment